

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/019573

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-25 as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- 2-5, 7-10, 12-14 as originally filed/furnished
- nos. _____
- nos.* 1, 6, 11 as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets fig. 1-9 as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1.	Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-14</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims _____	YES
		Claims <u>1-14</u>	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-14</u>	YES
		Claims _____	NO
2.	Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)		
	Document 1: JP 11-331407 A (NEC Shizuoka, Ltd.), 30 November 1999, paragraphs [0033] to [0039] and fig. 1		
	Document 2: JP 5-100645 A (Hitachi, Ltd.), 23 April 1993, claim 6; paragraphs [0006], [0008] and [0010]; and fig. 1 and 3		
	Document 3: JP 9-51511 A (Mitsubishi Electric Corp.), 18 February 1997, paragraphs [0016] to [0053] and fig. 1 to 9		
	Document 4: JP 2000-187470 A (Sharp Corp.), 04 July 2000, abstract; paragraphs [0023] to [0036]; and fig. 1 to 3		
	Document 5: JP 2003-108079 A (Sharp Corp.), 11 April 2003, paragraphs [0001] and [0027] to [0054], and fig. 1 and 2		
	Document 6: JP 2003-244784 A (Sharp Corp.), 29 August 2003, paragraphs [0048] to [0050], [0055] to [0059] and [0064] to [0067]; and fig. 16 to 20, 24 and 25 & WO 03/69950 A1 & AU 2003/211934 A1 & EP 1475988 A1		
	Document 7: JP 2003-78117 A (Canon Inc.), 14 March 2003, entire text, all drawings		
	Document 8: JP 2003-282885 A (Sharp Corp.), 03 October		

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	<p>2003, entire text, all drawings & US 2003/183876 A1 & FR 2837980 A1 & CN 1450649 A & KR 03/77410 A</p> <p>Document 9: JP 10-333667 A (NEC Shizuoka Ltd.), 18 December 1998</p> <p>Document 10: JP 2001-125559 A (NEC Corp.), 11 May 2001</p> <p>Document 11: JP 11-352950 A (Toshiba Corp.), 24 December 1999</p> <p>The inventions set forth in claims 1 and 13 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 3, 9 and 10 cited in the international search report. Character code input units for receiving character code inputs from an external device are well known, as disclosed in documents 9 and 10, and thus it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of employing such a character code input unit as the character code input unit in the inventions disclosed in documents 1 to 3.</p> <p>The invention set forth in claim 2 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 2, 9 and 10. Document 2 indicates that the "image information that is input from the image input unit and the text information that is input from the handwriting input unit are superposed for display" (paragraph [0012] and fig. 6).</p> <p>The invention set forth in claim 3 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 2, 9 and 10 in combination with documents 4 and 5, which are cited in the international search report. It would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of applying either of the well-known techniques that are disclosed in documents 4 and 5 as the method for superposing the sets</p>

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	<p>of information for display in the invention disclosed in document 2.</p> <p>The inventions set forth in claims 4, 5 and 7 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 3, 9 and 10 in combination with document 6, which is cited in the international search report. It would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of employing the configuration that is disclosed in document 6 as the configuration of the display unit in the inventions disclosed in documents 1 to 3.</p> <p>The invention set forth in claim 6 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 and 2 in combination with document 11, which is cited in the international search report. Document 1 discloses a method for inputting character signals, wherein the character signals are input by means of "hand-written inputs to a touch panel." Such being the case, the invention disclosed in document 1 is considered to include a section for subjecting the image signals from the touch panel to a character recognition process in order to output character signals. Meanwhile, the invention disclosed in document 2 is equipped with both an image signal input unit and a character recognition unit. Furthermore, the technical feature of "providing an image signal input unit, which receives the image signal inputs from an external device, and a character recognition unit, which extracts the characters that are included within said image signals, recognizes said characters and then converts said characters to corresponding character codes," is well known in the technical field pertaining to "information display devices," as disclosed in document 11 for example.</p>

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Consequently, it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to configure the invention set forth in claim 6 by applying the abovementioned well-known image signal input unit and the abovementioned well-known technique for extracting character information in the configurations disclosed in documents 1 and 2.

The inventions set forth in claims 8 to 11 and 14 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1, 2, 6 and 11. The features set forth in claims 8 to 11 and 14 are all disclosed in document 6.

The invention set forth in claim 12 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 3 and 6 to 11. It would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of employing either of the well-known techniques that are disclosed in documents 7 and 8 as the method for attaching a functional element to the thin film substrate in the inventions disclosed in documents 1 to 3.